



## Bureau du président du conseil de l'AÉUM

Située sur les territoires traditionnels des collectivités Haudenosaunee et Anishinaabe.

### SSMU Office of the Speaker

Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories.

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# MOTION REGARDING THE RENEWAL AND INCREASE OF THE CAMPUS LIFE FEE 2024-02-15

Submitted for: 2024-02-15

<b>Submitted to:</b>	SSMU Legislative Council	<b>Document no.:</b>	LEG-PUB-MOT-2024-02-15-003
<b>Moved by:</b>	Amina Kudrati-Plummer <i>VP Finance</i>	<b>Current Status:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> FOR APPROVAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> POSTPONED <input type="checkbox"/> COMMITTED <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPROVED
<b>Seconded by:</b>	Natan Sakajiri <i>Arts &amp; Science Representative</i>		

## Issue

The Campus Life Fee requires an increase to support increased demand for funding for Campus Life events.

## Background and Rationale

The Campus Life Fund, which is generated from the entire revenue of the Campus Life Fee, is a project/event-specific source of financial assistance for various initiatives taking place on or near campus including, but not limited to, projects, events, conferences, publications, and production of an academic, social, or athletic nature.

In 2022-2023, the Campus Life Fund provided \$120,000 in funding due to a surplus that built up during the COVID pandemic. During the 2022-2023 year, the surplus was entirely used up by club events and operating expenses. This funding supported 47 clubs, with 77 applications in total.

As the surplus has now been used up, the Campus Life Fund doesn't have enough funding to support the demand from the clubs in the 2023-2024 school year. Despite stricter regulations on funding, approximately 88% of the fund has already been utilized. This has been due to continued high rates of demand following the previous year's surplus, with approximately 42 submissions by this date last year, and 44 submissions to the fund currently. We anticipate that we will not be able to fund a large portion of events for the rest of this year due to lack of funds.



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In order to ensure we do not have to underfund/reject applications for campus life events in future years, we need to increase the Campus Life Fee.

The current Campus Life Fee is \$2.00 for full-time students and \$1.00 for part-time students. The new fee would be \$2.83 for full-time students and \$1.41 for part-time students.

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### Alignment with Mission

This motion is presented in accordance with the SSMU's constitutional mandate to support students and student groups of the McGill community, and mission to provide outstanding services, and promote social, cultural, and personal opportunities. The proposed increase to the Campus Life Fee would allow SSMU to continue to fund campus events and services in line with the SSMU's constitutional mandate and mission.

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### Consultations Completed

This motion is the product of consultations between the funding committee, the SSMU Vice-President (Finance), Vice-President (Student Life) and the Funding Commissioner.

The Policy and Advocacy Coordinator consulted on the motion writing process.

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### Risk Factors and Resource Implications

Should the proposed increase of the Campus Life Fee fail to pass, the Campus Life Fund will be unable to support all of the campus events that take place throughout the year. This will lead to a reduction in events and an increase in ticket prices for events and member fees for clubs.

Financial resources for clubs will be diminished if the referendum does not pass.

While this increased fee may present an additional financial burden on students, the fee is opt-outable, which should minimize the impact of this.

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### Sustainability Considerations

This motion is presented in alignment with the SSMU's mandates to promote to minimize socioeconomic barriers, and to be of service to student groups, and initiatives. Without this increase, many students will face barriers to club events, as ticket prices will increase.

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## Impact of Decision and Next Steps

Should this motion and the subsequent referendum question be adopted, the revised Club Fee would be as follows:

\$2.83 per semester for full-time students, and \$1.41 for part-time students.

This increase to the club fee would yield approximately \$31,400.00 in additional revenue annually.

If approved by the Legislative Council, the referendum question will be forwarded to Elections SSMU to be included in the Winter 2024 Referendum.

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## Motion or Resolution for Approval

Be it resolved that the Legislative Council approve the following questions for the Winter 2024 referendum period:

### **Question 1: Fee Renewal**

*“Do you agree to the renewal of the opt-outable Campus Life Fee of \$2.00 for full-time students and \$1.00 for part-time students per semester beginning in Fall 2024 and ending in Winter 2029 (inclusive and excluding the Summer semester), with the understanding that a majority ‘no’ vote will prevent the funding and support of events on and around campus?”*

### **Question 2: Fee Increase**

*“Do you agree to the increase of the opt-outable Campus Life Fee by \$0.83 per semester for full-time students and \$0.41 for part-time students, raising the fee to a total of \$2.83 for full-time students and \$1.41 for part-time students per semester, beginning in Fall 2024 and ending in Winter 2029 (inclusive and excluding the Summer semester), with the understanding that a majority ‘no’ vote will prevent the increase of the fee amount, impacting the ability of the funding committee to fund Campus Life activities?”*

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## Results of the Vote

In favour	(UNANIMOUS)
Opposed	( )
Abstain	( )



## Appendix A : Stats and Calculations

**Note: all revenues collected for the Campus Life Fee are distributed as funding (i.e., none is used for staff salaries, internal SSMU projects, etc.), hence there is no budget for this fee**

Stats:

\$76,507.79	Total Revenues from the Campus Life Fee in 2023-24 (estimate, as W2024 amount has not yet been received)
\$58,014.20	Amount approved from the Campus Life Fund in Fall 2023
\$2.00	Current Fee Amount (full-time students)
\$1.00	Current Fee Amount (part-time students)
75	Total Applications to the Campus Life Fund in 2022-23
43	Total Applications to the Campus Life Fund in 2023-24 as of 02/10/2024

Calculations

- Fall 2023 Total Funding \* 2 = Total Ideal Estimated Funding for 2023-24, if funding was continued at the same rate
  - $\$58,014.20 * 2 = \$116,028.40$
- Total Estimated Revenue Needed - 2023-24 Revenues = Total Additional Revenue Needed
  - $\$116,028.40 - \$76,507.79 = \$39,520.61$
- Total Additional Revenue needed/Total Students who pay the fee (provided by McGill) = Total Amount needed per student annually
  - $\$39,520.61 / 23,890 = \$1.65$
- Total Additional Amount needed per student annually/2 = Total Additional Fee per semester for full-time students
  - $\$1.65 / 2 = \mathbf{\$0.83}$
- Total Additional Fee per semester for full-time students = Total Additional Fee for part-time students
  - $\$0.83 / 2 = \mathbf{\$0.41}$
- Total Fee
  - Full-time students: \$2.83
  - Part-time students: \$1.41